



delivery frequently asked questions

← Country readiness and delivery

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What can countries do to get started preparing for COVID-19 vaccine introduction?

Countries can begin by conducting a self-assessment using the VIRAT/VRAF 2.0. The VIRAT/VRAF 2.0 provides countries with an integrated roadmap of milestones and a framework for self-monitoring progress in preparing for vaccine introduction.

Countries are advised to develop their National Deployment and Vaccination Plan (NDVP). The CRD workstream has developed [Guidance on Developing a National Deployment and Vaccination Plan for COVID-19 Vaccines](#) and a [template for NDVP development](#) which will help countries develop an operational plan for COVID-19 vaccine introduction.

2

Why should countries develop a national deployment and vaccination plan?

The National and Deployment Vaccination Plan (NDVP) is the operational plan to plan for, implement, and monitor COVID-19 vaccine rollout. Developing this plan helps countries to prepare for COVID-19 vaccines, identify resource needs, and streamline the process for introducing the COVID-19 vaccine.

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How is this different from the VIRAT/VRAF 2.0?

The NDVP and the VIRAT/VRAF 2.0 are aligned to offer countries a harmonized approach for COVID-19 vaccine readiness. The VIRAT/VRAF 2.0 provides a roadmap for countries to plan for COVID-19 vaccine introduction and a structured framework for countries to self-monitor their readiness progress against key milestones. Countries can use the VIRAT/VRAF 2.0 to identify areas where support may be needed.



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What resources are being developed to support countries in getting ready for COVID-19 vaccines?

CRD will be releasing additional guidance and tools over the next several weeks. CRD is developing training packages for key stakeholders such as health workers and national focal points for COVID-19 vaccine introduction. Other upcoming resources include guidance and tools for NITAGs, national policy-maker, and other stakeholders on demand planning; community engagement; assessing social and behavioural drivers of vaccination; supply, distribution, and logistics; monitoring vaccination; and conducting a post introduction evaluation.

These resources will be available on the [Country Readiness and Delivery webpage](#)

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Who will be the target groups for COVID-19 vaccine introduction? What delivery strategies will be used?

The [WHO SAGE Roadmap for Prioritizing Uses of COVID-19 Vaccines in the Context of Limited Supply](#), which identifies 3 different scenarios: community transmission, sporadic cases or cluster of cases and no cases. In the community transmission scenario, health workers at high to very high risk of acquiring and transmitting infection followed by older adults are the initial priority groups. This global recommendation needs to be discussed at national level by NITAGs to

determine if it is adapted to their national context, based on the local evidence on age structures, burden and risk factors but also operational feasibility.

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What are the cold chain requirements for COVID-19 vaccine introduction?

Three cold chain temperature ranges are expected for the various COVID-19 vaccines under development: +2-8°C, -20°C, and -70°C. Careful assessment and mapping of the existing cold chain capacities within these temperature ranges and addressing identified gaps are necessary in planning for vaccine deployment. Information on vaccine stability, Vaccine Vial Monitors and expiration date may not be available during the initial vaccine deployment period.

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What lessons learned from past vaccine introduction experiences can inform COVID-19 vaccine introduction

preparations?

The ACT Accelerator is incorporating lessons learned from existing vaccination programmes and past emergency vaccine introductions including pandemic and seasonal influenza vaccination programmes, ebola, polio, hepatitis, yellow fever, cholera, and meningitis.

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How can countries combat misinformation?

The Misinformation Management Guide supports countries to understand misinformation, how it spreads and gets traction, what can be done to mitigate its impact, and how to develop an integrated social listening strategy. In addition to tracking misinformation, a social listening strategy enables ongoing monitoring of vaccine related conversations and identification of people's concerns. This informs the design and content of communication and advocacy, community engagement and social mobilization interventions.

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How will data on country progress and implementation be collected and shared?

Existing tools will be modified and used to monitor and collect data at global and regional level.

The WHO/UNICEF Joint Reporting Form on Immunization will be modified to collect information on vaccination delivery strategy, uptake, and other programmatic indicators to address global and regional monitoring needs. Frequency of monitoring will be adapted to needs. The data will be reported by the Ministry of Health.

Data and analytics will be shared via the WHO website and dedicated dashboards according to the WHO [data sharing policy](#).

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How can I find out more information on the ACT Accelerator and the Country Readiness and Delivery work?

You can find regularly updated information and resources on the [Country Readiness and Delivery webpage](#).

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